



Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Public Health Division
(510) 981-5300

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Health Officer

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Measles Update

Current Situation:

California's statewide measles outbreak continues with over 100 confirmed cases. Berkeley has had no confirmed cases to date, but there have been 6 cases in Alameda County and many in the Bay Area. Berkeley Public Health has notified schools, preschools and daycare communities recommending staff and students be protected against measles with the MMR vaccine. Although Berkeley public health is not recommending the early administration of the 2nd dose of MMR, providers should be aware of the ACIP guidelines which provide the option of administering the second dose before 4 years of age, provided at least 4 weeks have elapsed since the first dose.

Recommendations:

1. Providers may consider administering the 2nd MMR earlier than 4-6 years of age, in accordance with ACIP guidelines, if clinical judgment warrants or in response to parental request.
2. Educate staff to triage patients for symptoms of fever and rash **before** coming to the office. New materials for posting are available, see links below. **Mask suspect measles patients immediately.** Do not allow suspect measles patients to remain in the waiting area or other common areas; isolate them immediately in an airborne isolation room or in a private room with the door closed. Do not use any regular exam room for at least **2 hours** after a suspected measles patient has left the room.
3. **WATCH for measles symptoms – Consider measles in patients of any age who have a fever AND a rash regardless of their travel history.** Please note that although documentation of receipt of two doses of MMR vaccine or a prior positive measles IgG test result makes the diagnosis of measles less likely, **measles can still occur in such persons.**
4. **IMMEDIATELY REPORT suspect** measles cases to Berkeley Public Health by calling 510-981-5300. **Do not wait for lab confirmation to call us.** After hours, or if you do not reach us at that number, the Public Health Officer can be reached at 510-981-5911 (Berkeley Police Dispatch).
5. **TEST** –Nasopharyngeal or throat swabs along with urine specimens for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and viral culture are preferred for measles diagnosis. To expedite testing and decrease delay in diagnosis, coordinate specimen handling with Berkeley Public Health 510-981-5300. **Do not send specimens to a commercial lab.**
6. **ADVISE** patient to stay home until contacted by Berkeley Public Health.
7. **Ensure your staff and patients are up-to-date on their vaccinations against measles.**

Sources for Information:

California Department of Public Health (CDPH):

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Measles.aspx>

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/CDPHMeaslesInvestigationQuicksheet.pdf>

Testing:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/CDPHMeaslesLabTesting2011-01.pdf>

CDPH Health advisory 1/21/15:

http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/CDPH_Measles_Health_Advisory1-21-2015.pdf

ACIP recommendations:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf>

Measles posters:

<http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1157.pdf>

<http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1160.pdf>

Please distribute to all providers in your practice